



Network 2 Continues Its Quest to be World-Class

Change is constant, especially in health care. It is a fast paced field requiring flexibility and speed in both its organization and its employees in order to keep up with research breakthroughs, advancements in technologies and new forms of treatment.

Network 2 continues to lead other Networks in quality indicators including clinical practice guidelines, customer service, access and waiting times. Network 2 is also known across the country for the innovative ways we have structured our organization. Our employees are continually asked about our organization, employees, pilot projects and results. We are known as a Network that strives to be a world-class health care organization.

As we strive to improve and become even more efficient with our resources, Network 2 has reviewed its organizational structure and aligned budget authority and local care lines under the Medical Center Directors at each site. The Network Care Line Managers continue to provide guidance and oversight to the local care line leaders to insure that best practices are shared and implemented Network-wide and resources are used efficiently.

We have implemented the committee structure of the National Network Leadership Board. We have six primary Network Committees, each with a separate focus that oversees Network councils. The committees are: Finance and Resources, Communications, Health Systems, Human Resources, Strategic Planning, and Information and Data Management. Committees are responsible for formatting proposals/ideas/projects and submitting them to the Operations Board (comprised of the Network Executive Leadership) for review and concurrence. Each committee will have its own strategic purpose, goals, individual membership, and councils that report to them. These changes will keep our Network on course to becoming a world-class health care organization. This issue of *Infopage* includes a brief listing of membership for each committee. Additional information will be included in the fall issue of the employee newsletter.

Finance & Resources Committee

- *Chair: **James Campbell**, Chief Financial Officer
- *Vice Chair: **David Smith**, Medical Center Director, Canandaigua

Members:

- **Linda Weiss**, VISN Operations Officer
- **James Cody**, Medical Center Director, Syracuse/Chair, Strategic Planning Committee
- **Mike Swartz**, Acting Director, VA Western New York Healthcare System; Network Diagnostics and Therapeutics Care Line Manager/Chair, Human Resources Council
- **Mary Ann Witt**, Network Revenue Officer
- **Victor Heinrich**, Network Chief Logistics Officer/Acquisition and Materials Management
- **Dave Hill**, Chair, Engineering Council
- **George Knight**, Pharmacy Benefits Manager
- **Diana Wiseman**, Financial Compliance Officer
- Human Resource Council Representative (to be determined)

Ex-Officio (non-voting participants):

- **Thomas Sharpe**, Network Financial Operations Manager
- **Royce Calhoun**, Network Financial Budget Officer
- **Kim Purdy**, Network Sharing Coordinator
- Facility Financial Coaches (**Jan Stewart**, Albany; **George Corda**, Bath; **Margie Burzynski**, Buffalo; **Bob Alsheimer**, Syracuse; **Lis Kittell**, Care Line and VISN)
- Recorder/Administrative Support - **Donna Dardaris** or **Christine Krupski** (alternate)

*2-year tenure (current chair ends July 2005)

Health Systems Committee (HSC)

- Chair: **Paula Hemmings**, Network Geriatrics and Extended Care Line Manager
- Vice-Chair: TBD

Members:

- **Carol Bedford**, Health Systems Specialist
- **Sue Leggett**, Performance Management/Patient Safety
- **Doug Nather**, Performance Management
- **Diane Cass**, Nurse Executive
- **Colleen Combs**, RN
- **Dr. Geoffrey McCarthy**, Network Medical VA Care Line Manager
- **Lorn Gingrich**, Social Worker
- **Dr. John Sanderson**, Physician
- **Dr. Eina Fishman**, Physician Executive

- **Dave Morgan**, Diagnostics and Therapeutic Care Line

Reporting to the HSC:

- Network Committees
 - Chief of Staff
 - Associate Director Patient Nursing Services
 - Social Work
 - Nutrition
 - Women Veterans
 - Pain
 - Ethics
 - Research
- Performance Management
- Clinical Care Lines
- Research
- Emergency Preparedness

Communications Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Scott Murray**, Network Behavioral VA Health Care Line and **Linda Weiss**, VISN Operations Officer
- Vice Chair: **Fabiane Erb**, Staff Assistant to the Director

Members:

- **Kathleen Hider**, Network Communications
- **Ro Hurley**, Co-Chair Customer Service Council
- **Lizabeth Weiss**, Associate Director Patient Nursing Services (ADPNS)
- **Fran Peters**, Veteran Service Center Manager
- Labor Representative
- Human Resources Representative
- **Doug Erickson**, Medical Center representative
- Senior Clinician - Care Line Director (Network Level), Care Line Clinical Lead or Chief of Staff
- **Dr. Dee Wonch**, Patient Education
- **Jeff Grandon**, Web Master

Councils:

- **Kathleen Hider** - Public Affairs/Outreach (formerly known as Communications Council)
- **Ro Hurley/Fabiane Erb** - Customer Service
- **Scott Murray** - New York State Veterans Service Coalition
- **Dr. Dee Wonch** - Patient Education
- **Scott Murray** - Network 2 Consumer Council
- **Linda Weiss/Kathleen Hider** - Management Advisory Consortium (MAC)

Human Resources Committee

- Chair - **Mike Swartz**, Acting Director, VA Western New York Healthcare System; Network Diagnostics and Therapeutics Care Line Manager/Chair, Human Resources Council
- Vice Chair - **Mary-Ellen Piché**, Medical Center Director, Albany

Membership:

- **Dr. Avery Ellis** - Chief of Staff
- **Patricia Lind** - Associate Director Patient Nursing Services
- **Kara Merendo** - Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)
- **Joe Camardo** - Partnership
- **Darlene Delancey** - Education and High Performance Development Model (HPDM)
- **Doug Bender** - Human Resources (HR)
- **Odie Freeman** - Minority Affairs
- **Mark Francis** - Voluntary Services

Subcommittees:

- Network Education Council
- EEO Council
- HPDM Workgroup
- HR Council
- Minority Veterans Council
- Voluntary Council
- Partnership



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Information & Data Management Committee

- Chair - **David Smith**, Medical Center Director, Canandaigua
- Vice Chair - Network Chief Information Officer

Membership:

- SIC
- **Dr. Robert Babcock**, Chief of Staff
- **Fran Peters**, Network Veteran Service Center Manager
- **Halyna Korhun**, Medical Librarian

Sub-Committees:

- Data Integrity
- Library
- Patient Care Encounter (PCE) Clinic Set-Up
- HIC/Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
- Telemedicine
- E-Health
- Vista Imaging
- Knowledge Management
- Information Systems Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Workgroup
- Automated Data Processing Application Coordinator (ADPAC)
- Data Quality Control

Strategic Planning Committee

- Chair - **James Cody**, Medical Center Director, Syracuse
- Vice Chair - **David Wood**, Medical Center Director, Bath

Membership:

- **Dr. Lawrence Flesh**, VISN 2 Chief Medical Officer
- **Scott Murray**, Network Behavioral VA Care Line Manager
- **Joe Cohen**, VISN 2 Planner
- **Kim Nazi**, Knowledge Management Officer
- **James Campbell**, Chief Financial Officer
- **Mark Antinelli**, HR Representative
- **Bonita Reid**, Labor Representative

Sub-Committees:

- Strategic Operations Council
- Public Affairs/Outreach Council
- Baldrige Council
- CARES Council
- Emergency Management/Preparedness Council

Correction

In the June/July *Infopage* it was announced that **Gordon Sclar** won an award at the National Public Affairs conference in Dallas, Texas, for his work on the Syracuse VA Medical Center's 50th anniversary celebration. Sclar actually won the award in the category of Excellence in Public Affairs - Special Events and Projects for his ongoing efforts with the World War II Minority Veterans Outreach Programs. This included the Day of Honor event, the creation of a Wall of Honor, and an educational element that brings veterans into the classroom to share their experiences through a 'living history' lesson. The events/initiatives, as well as the response from the community and the tremendous media coverage generated before and after, earned Sclar this recognition. This is the second such VA National Public Affairs award presented to Sclar.